

**RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER**PATENT APPLN. NO. 10/506,566
RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

MAR 03 2008

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NON-FINALIN THE CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) Spot footing ~~designed especially~~ for securing a precast concrete or timber column to a foundation and/or for extending such a column, said spot footing comprising a base plate (3) provided with a mounting hole (7), and a cylindrical protective casing consisting of a top plate (2), a side wall part (4, 6) having an opening (5) and anchor bars, characterized in that the spot footing comprises two or more anchor bars (1) secured to the top plate (2) so that [[the]] loads are transmitted via anchor bars (1), the top plate (2), the wall part (4,6) and the base plate (3), and

the top plate consists of a thicker force-transmitting part (2) and a thin protective casing part (2"), which is fittable against [[the]] a column mold.

2. (currently amended) Spot footing according to claim 1, characterized in that one or more vertical anchor bars (8) are secured, ~~e.g. by welding,~~ to [[the]] a back side of the side wall part (4) substantially on an axis of symmetry.

3. (previously presented) Spot footing according to claim 1, characterized in that the side walls (4, 6) of the protective

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casing are so shaped that, in respect of material strength, the center of gravity of the cross-section of the wall is located substantially at the center of the bolt hole (7).

4. (original) Spot footing according to claim 1, characterized in that the hole (7) of the base plate (7) is elliptical.

5. (original) Spot footing according to claim 1, characterized in that the top plate (2) of the protective casing is provided with a round hole (9) located in alignment with the hole in the base plate (3), allowing the use of prestressing cables.

6. (previously presented) Spot footing according to claim 1, characterized in that the anchor bars are so disposed in the top plate that the anchor bars are located substantially around the hole (7) of the base plate (3).

7. (currently amended) Spot footing according to claim 1, characterized in that the top plate (2) consists of two parts (2', 2'') of different thicknesses, either so that ~~[[the]]~~ a top plate (2) edge (2'') fitted against the column mold is made of thinner

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material than part (2'), or so that the thinner part is secured to
[[the]] a frontal surface of the thicker part.

8. (new) Spot footing according to claim 2, characterized in
that the one or more vertical anchor bars (8) is/are secured by
welding.